

Abstract

The present invention provides diagnostic reagent or reagent kit whereby the presence of adenocarcinoma cells can be detected in cells obtained from uterine cervix obtained for cytodiagnosis, in particular, the presence of adenocarcinoma can be specifically detected in distinction from squamous carcinoma cells; and methods of detecting adenocarcinoma cells. Adenocarcinoma cells are detected by determining cytokeratin 8 with use of cytokeratin 8 antibody optionally with its secondary antibody. Cytokeratin 8 is contained in the largest amount in adenocarcinoma cells among cells obtained from uterine cervix. The detection sensitivity is increased by employing HIK 1083 antibody together. The subject specimen may comprise either uterine cervix tissues or individually dispersed cells.